AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, securing in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

LET WORKERS BE HEARD AGAINST JINGO POLICY.

Wage earners should keep in mind the announced purpose of the itation-of-armament conference on November 11 and refuse to be ntracked by manufactured issues.

Some of the world's most cunning minds and sharpest publicity nts will be in Washington at that time to mold public opinion for perialists, militarists and commercial expansionists.

These forces—skillful, resourceful and unscrupulous—would have the world's ideal for their selfish purpose.

Wage earners must be alert to the methods of this sinister group. se leading cards are national and racial prejudices, foreign concesns, high society and political influence.

For the year ending June 30, last year, congress appropriated $5,- 5,005,606. Of this amount $5 per cent was voted for recent and rious wars and for the war and navy departments.

One per cent of the $5,686,005,606 was voted for research, edu- ional and developmental, including the public health, labor, agricul- , federal education, bureau of mines, women's and children's bureau, eau of labor statistics, bureau of standards, library of congress, etc.,

In other words, congress voted more than five and one-half billion ars, for governmental purposes, last year, and out of every dollar of vast sum 92 8-10 cents went for war purposes while 1 cent was oted to the arts and processes of peace.

Militarists will pile their back-breaking debt on labor as long as per permits.

Labor has made repeated protests, but let every man, woman and d join in such a thunderous protest on Armistice day against war enditures that even the most hardened militarist will be affected.

Ninety-three cents for war and 1 cent for peace is not a healthy dition. It is a menace to democratic life.

Join with the A. F. of L. in its program of mass meetings and ades on Armistice day against 93 cents for war and 1 cent for peace.

Interest every other American following citizen in this anti-militarist, ring movement that is eating up the people's sustenance, and re- ting the development of a fuller life.

"The time has come to disarm."

Louis Building Craftsmen Revive Industry

ashington, Sept. 24.—The St. building trades council has ad an effective method of stimula- building operations which is ing the anti-union shop cam- n, in the belief of Maurice J. ole, secretary of the council, scription of the plan to President pers.

Louis unionists, it is stated e no illusions that the plan is a for crushing trades unionism it in their belief that it will partly ve this industry. Secretary Cas- says [illegible] at a meeting of terest is necessary for a com- revival.

for the present, the plan provides an agreement between the owner the proposed building and the ma- ns to be engaged in the work. etary Cassidy writes:

a few months ago a prominent ooter came to this council and s to be could get money to build large apartment houses and a ttory hotel, notwithstanding that ny banker in this city refused to he the loan unless he would agree ntract the jobs under the anti- n plan. The promoter asked for oco-operation of all building trades crafts, and he promised to come e the plan under strictly union ditions if the trades and crafts ld agree. I then went with the ness or delays due to labor dis- s and that under no circumstances would work be stopped or the men removed from the jobs."

officials of the council's affiliates accepted the plan and an agreement was signed which was called "an agreement with the owners."

"The two institutes are nearing completion and the work is at least 60 days ahead of the schedule," says Secretary Cassidy. "The wages saved under this plan offset all arguments for reductions in pay. Under our 'agreement with the owner plan the contractors' overhead charges are cut down the amount in wages by having efficient workmen than they would have saved with the 20 per cent reduction in pay.

"Since making that agreement with the promoter we have signed another to cover a large hotel building which has been started and we are about to sign one to cover an eight-story hospital building. It will be a great while until all buildings will be erected under agreements. When these agreements are signed the owner is told who the union contractors are—we play no favorites. We give them all the names and they select the one they want from the list.

"The owner holds these general contractors responsible for the acts of the sub-contractors, and all are told the work must be carried on strictly union basis.

"The trades unions care of the erection of the building; it is erected without delay. The very fact that the owner realizes on his investment at a date far in advance of when he expected to get returns is the best advertisement we can get."

LABOR BAITERS MUM; FOOD PRICES GOING UP

Washington, Sept. 21.—Food costs ntinue going up, according to the ted States bureau of labor sta- ics.

ith wages reduced, labor baiters put in an awkward position and for than a year past have been ing the belief that there would be retail cost of food increased by per cent in August, as compared July, it is stated. Of the 42 ms of food used for the month ust, 27 showed an increase in , 10 articles showed a decrease the same time no price change. states fed with 24 per cent in- ; fresh eggs, 15 per cent; pota- , cheese, 14 per cent; cabbage, 11 per cent; butter 10 per cent; lard, 8 per ; sugar, 6 per cent; canned corn, , 4 per cent; ham and oranges, per cent, and bacon, rice, rolled , oleomargarine, beef, steak, chuck roast and other articles leased from five-tenths of 4 per to 2 per cent.

he bureau also announced that cereals prices of April, chiefly stuffs showed "a strong upward ency" during August. These ases included butter, cheese, ges, rice, meats, sugar, fruits potatoes. Animals in freight- cattle and hogs, also averaged ht in August than in July. All modities considered as a group approximately 2% per cent ter in August than in July.

SOMETHING TO REMEMBER.

New York, Sept. 24.—Recent in- ses in the cost of living as an- ced by the United States bureau labor statistics are facts worth mitting to memory, says Max D. ner, justice of justice, official ane of the International La- Garment Workers' union.

ere are the items in the cost of live- he says, "given the lie to the rtions of the wage cutters, the ad ising of employers and sup- ers. These facts should be made ers, widely as possible and ld become the most powerful son in the counter-offensive of Workers against the greedy ing advantage of the present nomic crisis to break down their dard of living.

DEATHS IN INDUSTRY.

arrisburg, Pa., Sept. 24. — The nsylvania bureau of industrial tistics has announced that it ated from statements issued by state workmen's compensation ard from January 1, 1916, to mber 1, 1921, there were 1,- 213 accidents, of which 15,817 fatal cases. This terrible ghter in peace times does not ude every accident in Pennsyl- a industry during the five year od as the board only includes e cases that are reported to it.

FEAR FOOD CONTROL.

w York, Sept. 24.—Officers of the ional Wholesale Grocers' asso- on fear that the "big five" meat ers will control the entire na- food supply of the country.

ANTI-UNION RAIL MANAGERS AGAIN JOLTED BY U. S. BOARD

Chicago, Sept. 24.—The United States railroad labor board has dealt another blow to the anti-union policy of railroad managers by ordering the Pennsylvania railroad—the leader in this movement—to deal with labor unions as organizations.

The board also refused the Pennsylvania's plea for a rehearing of the board's recent order that this railroad desist from only treating with its company "union."

The board indicted how important the company "union" really is, and why managers favor them—by its statement that of the hundreds of disputes brought before it, "less than five were brought by and for unorganized employees."

"If members of any class wish to join a union they have that right," said the board. "If they desire to remain out or leave such a union at any time, they have that right. If they want a union shop or closed shop, want a union or its officers to represent them, they have that right. If they want 'union men or not, want other individuals to represent them, they have that right.

"Neither the board nor the management of the Pennsylvania system has the right by any kind of coercion or movement to dictate as to who shall be their representatives. Any attempt to do so is an unauthorized meddling in affairs."

The position the Pennsylvania railroad has taken, according to the board, practically is that it has the sole right to proceed in its own way in the settlement of the disputes who are to represent the employes; that it, and it alone, has the right to prescribe the plans and conduct the proceedings and be the sole judge of the results; and that any judgment, opinion, direction or regulation by the board is unauthorized interference with the prerogatives of the carrier.

"The mere statement by the Pennsylvania railroad of its position would seem to carry its own answer," the board said. "It must be the real reason why no liberty of action left to the employes, and that there could be no real negotiations and settlement of matters in dispute."

'MUST WIN IN MINGO,' SAYS MINERS' CHIEF

Indianapolis, Sept. 24.—"The fight in Mingo county, West Virginia, must be won," declared John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, in his report to the biennial convention of that organization.

The miners' chief reviewed the West Virginia situation at length, and expressed the hope that the senate investigating committee "would be instrumental in laying bare the horrors of that field."

He recommended that legal proceedings be instituted to make a full test of the constitutionality of the Kansas "can't-strike" law.

Discussing the wage question President Lewis mentioned 13 states in which coal owners asked for wage reductions. He said the miners union's policy was uncompromisingly for denying out the present agreement which was based on the government's bituminous coal commission's award, made after the nation-wide strike of two years ago.

"Our people were employed only two days a week on the average," said Lewis, "and while they have found it extremely difficult to provide themselves with food and other necessities, furthermore, due to the fact that the wages now paid in the organized sections of the mining industry are but little above the cost of production, the operators in the Coal can be produced under the present wage scale a living wage that corresponds favorably with production costs of other essential commodities."

Recommendation was made that definite action on wage demands be postponed until early February.

"With all wage agreements expiring on April 31, 1922," he said, "the full influence and economic power of our great membership may thus be utilized in the advantage of our people for the achievement of our ideals."

ROADS CAN'T VICTIMIZE.

Chicago, Sept. 24.—The United States labor board has ruled that the railroads can not discharge an employe because he joins a labor union and has ordered the Butler County railroad, a 41-mile line in southern Missouri, to reinstate two employes and pay them for time lost.

The decision is in opposition to decisions by the United States supreme court that a railroad can discharge for any reason or no reason.

The board has no power to enforce its decisions, but declares "congress did not intend or expect to limit the International Labor Board in the strict legal rights of the parties, because if it did the decisions never could be solved."

Attention is called to that portion of the Cummins-Esch law which declares that the public interest demands continuous and uninterrupted operation of the transportation lines.

"It is plausible to assume," says the board, "that the purpose of congress in passing the transportation act was to provide the most effective means as possible to prevent any interruption of traffic growing out of disputes. But without regard to which view of the purpose of this legislation is correct, the board, nevertheless, feels that it should decide all disputes in a manner just and reasonable to the parties concerned."

DROP OUT-OF-WORK PLAN.

London, England, Sept. 24.—A number of trade unions are disatisfied with the government unemployment insurance and are dropping the scheme. Notice of withdrawal has been given by the Vehicle Workers' union and the Municipal employes' association, both of administering the insurance is a drain on the unions, with the result that the government has failed to carry out its part of the plan.

State benefits are paid by the unions administering the insurance, the state refunding the money later. It is claimed that the government has failed to refund the fees refunds and in some cases large sums are overdue. In the case of the vehicle workers only about 10 per cent of the members participated and it is impossible to continue the scheme with such small support. They already resulted in great financial loss to the union.

SIGN FIRST CONTRACT.

Chicago, Sept. 24.—The Pullman Car company has signed its first agreement with organized labor. The contract is between the company and system federation No. 122 of the A. F. of L. railway employes' department, and closes a long dispute between the two parties. The company organized a "union" in an effort to defeat the trade unionists.

"SUPPOSED" TO HAVE $250.

Washington, Sept. 24.—Every man, woman and child in the country is supposed to have $250 saved up, according to the United States treasury. It is stated that savings of small investors total $27,000,000,000.

Workers Are "Bunked" By Harvester Trust

Chicago, Sept. 24.—The harvester trust operates an employment bureau "usually got considerable bunk and fell far short of getting a fifty-fifty average."

"In some plants the foreman of the various departments had in the past been encouraged to practice trickery on the employes."

The above statement was made by Arthur H. Young, manager of the trust's industrial relations department, in his address before the convention of the American Drop Forge association.

The speaker was explaining the trust's company "union" while acknowledging that the trust was guilty of trickery on its employes.

He further said that the company "union" is designed to replace work output but it "remains to be seen" whether wages can be reduced. He added that some manufacturers "expect to sit in the grand stand and do the cheering while the employes do all the work."

In commenting on Gompers' Labor Day address, the Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers' Magazine says:

"Here you have it Mr. Young frankly admits the practice of trickery on the employes, also that in some plants foremen had in the past been encouraged to practice trickery. How under Heaven, and in the name of common sense, are employes to have any confidence in the face of such frank admission? If they trick him once will they not do it again? Will they trick him often? And this is a strictly piece work plant.

"The trickery surely must be more cunning, more fooling and more deceiving still, when it is not the boss more than twice the piece work production and at a less cost. Says Brother Young, in the Harvester, that the directors of the company expect to sit in the grand stand and do all the cheering, while the employes do all the work, and to the work they will have to add the convention 'that it remains to be seen' what will happen when the bosses insist on trying to reduce the present scale of wages."

OPPOSE ANTI-UNIONISM.

East St. Louis, Ill., Sept. 24.—The meat packers' anti-union program was denounced at a mass meeting of 3,000 employes in this city today. The speakers declared:

"The packers are trying to deceive the reading public, through the press, by wrongfully naming their policy as emergency and workings of their so-called 'American representation plan.'

"The packers are trying to allow their employes to vote on whether or not they desire to participate in the company 'union.'

"Second, that the plan handed out by the Cummins-Esch law, prohibiting their employes as dictatorial and autocratic as any organization of labor.

"Third, that they have already interfered with the right of labor to set wages and hours of labor for the reason that they have refused to meet the union in regard to profits, and therefore the employes had nothing to say as regards the management of the plant.

"Fourth, the packers employ outside agitators, but they refuse to recognize the men employed by labor unions to represent them in wage hearings, and still they deny us the right to select our own counsel to represent us."

GREEDY SHIP OWNERS.

New York, Sept. 24—Ship owners are bringing thousands of aliens in defiance of the new immigration law, it was charged today by labor arrivals from each country to 2 per cent of the nationals who were in the United States in 1910. The owners' greed and their disregard for the law were denounced by them. The companies can be forced to return the immigrants, but the law has been made a farce, it was said, a sage money to the victimized immigrants. Many of them have been driven to distraction and hysteria when they discover conditions here. Many have committed suicide, others pass legislation providing for a fine of $200 against the company for every alien above the quota brought overseas and $1,000 against them to refund to the immigrants the price of their passage.

RAISE ANTI-COSSACK CRY.

Louisville, Ky., Sept. 24.—Officers of the state federation of labor have issued a call to strike against establishing the cossack system in this state. The plan will be urged at the next session of the state assembly. It was defeated in the 1918 and 1920 sessions. The unionists learn that the cossack system are perfecting a strong lobby for next year's session, and workers are called upon to question every candidate for the state assembly.

WANT ANTI-UNION SHOP.

Vancouver, British Columbia, Sept. 24.—The Lockie Shoe company has declared for the open shop, and nearly 100 members of the Boot and Shoe Workers' union are idle as a result.

"LESS-ARMS" PARLEY BACKED BY LABOR

Nation-Wide Demonstrations Will By Held On Armistice Day

Washington, Sept. 24.—Every central labor union is expected to join wholeheartedly in the celebration and demonstration on Armistice day.

There can be no sufficient excuse for failure anywhere.

The importance of the event is paramount.

Let the voice of the American people be heard in its full volume.

Let the international conference on limitation of armament understand the will of America.

Let every central body do its duty. Let every trade unionist do his part.

It is expected that no one will fail.

Let us glorify the triumph of the principles of democracy over autocracy and militarism.

Let us bring triumph to one of labor's great humanitarian principles—the limitation of armament.

Washington, Sept. 24.—Plans for celebration of Armistice day with great demonstrations for disarmament everywhere under the leadership of labor are developing rapidly.

In response to the call of the A. F. of L. central bodies are taking up the question and reporting their decisions and plans to A. F. of L. headquarters.

The Washington central labor union, naturally one of the first to receive the call, was one of the first to act. Being, by location, at the very seat of the forthcoming international conference on limitation of armament, the Washington central body will play one of the important parts in the national demonstration program. It is probable that President Gompers will deliver the principal address for labor in Washington's demonstration.

One of the important steps taken by the Federation in its development of labor's program is the issuance of invitations to about 200 men and women, asking them to serve as members of labor's disarmament advisory committee. On this list are many representatives of the labor movement and men and women representing all other walks of life. It is planned to have this committee representative of the entire citizenship of the country.

As soon as responses, accepting the invitations, have been received a date of meeting in Washington will be announced by President Gompers. It is likely that the committee will meet for several days prior to Armistice day and that it will hold sessions then and during the sessions of the international conference on limitation of armament. It is planned to have sub-committees appointed for various specialized duties.

At A. F. of L. headquarters figures are being prepared for the use of central labor unions in connection with parades, addresses and newspaper articles. These figures will show what is being buried in armament and how it is distributed. It is proposed to prepare these figures in brief and graphic form and to begin shortly to furnish them to central bodies.

Fully 30 national organizations have been informed of labor's plans and have been asked to lend their co-operation in making the Armistice day demonstrations a complete success and the prominent of the will of the people to the international conference a most emphatic one which will carry weight with applause and pledges of participation and support.

STANDARD OIL CROWD FINANCES MEXICO'S LATEST "REVOLUTION"

Tulsa, Okla., Sept. 24.—The recent Tampico "revolution" was instigated by the Standard oil group, which made such a noise about danger to property that the United States government ordered two warships to Tampico. The "war was passed" in Houston, Texas, to finance the uprising against the Mexican government.

The above charge is made by W. H. Gray, president of the national association of independent oil producers, in a letter to W. H. Sproul, president of the Kansas oil and gas men's association, at Wichita, Kan.

It is stated that immediately after Mexico taxed oil imported from that country the Standard Oil group started a movement to boycott Mexico and in addition spent off a small revolution to throw the fear of God into the Mexican government."

The "war was passed" by Houston oil companies to finance the plan.

"A loud noise was made at Washington, The announcement was made that all tools be shut down in the Mexican fields, which was went out that conditions were dangerous there. A governmental revolution was publicly proclaimed with a general in the field in command. The necessity for ships was then pointed out to the state department at Washington. Presto! The navy ordered two ships to the Mexican coast.

"Meanwhile the revolution (there was one general in the field) was in full swing in the Panico river district. The Mexican government promptly sent a detachment of soldiers in pursuit of the band of revolutionists who surrendered upon proper guarantee of safety and made confession that they were merely camouflaging for certain oil interests in the United States.

"The state department, which had been led into an appropriate line of demonstration against Mexico by sending war ships into a friendly harbor, was immediately swamped with telegrams from all parts of the United States protesting against any such demonstration. Of course, men's associations through which the Mexican government put down the Mexican rebellion" in the Panico district made it unnecessary for the war ships to remain for a longer period than 24 to 36 hours, and the order was given to get out and get you quick and left the actors in the opera bouffe in very bad grace with the state department at Washington and the state department at Mexico, and there was nothing to do but lean heavily upon the boys in the trenches.

"The first skirmish resulted in a victory for the Mexican government and a defeat for the 'oilers.' However, it was announced the boycott will be continued notwithstanding the Washington government had quietly decamped from the field of battle.

"By the middle of August it became evident to more than the Mexican government was going to be able to hold out for a much longer period than 24 to 36 hours, and the concern which had entered into the revolt with so much determined to send the heads of the leading companies which had entered into the revolt down to Mexico City, and they succeeded in persuading the Mexican government to allow them to pay the tax quarterly instead of monthly."

UNION TRADE RULES BLAMED ON BOSSES

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 24.—The great indoor sport of aiding employes to change unions is labeled which they claim is objectionable by those who practice it, John P. Ryan, of Catholic university, Washington, D. C., in a speech in this city.

The speaker said that fear of unemployment is behind regulations that hamper labor, but that they could be removed by guaranteeing labor regular employment.

The failure to do so, he said, is poor industrial management, and the cause of much industrial unrest. No effort is being made to end the causes which lead to such attempts, Ryan said in opposing in opposition to the position taken by employers in favor of the open shop who ignore causes and who deal with effects.

The speaker declared that for several restrictive measures employed by the unions "there is considerable justification of intimidation, if not of justification."

"No abuse can be remedied by mere denunciation," he said. "Causes can be removed only by comprehensive measures that will give members security in their jobs and interest in their work."

"When we turn from the subject of deliberate restriction of production to that which is due to the failure of labor is much less responsible than industrial management. In the report of the department of labor we find that waste in six great industries is charged against management as 68 per cent, while only 16 per cent is attributed to labor."

SHORTER WEEK GAINS.

Indianapolis, Sept. 24.—Officers of the International Typographical union report steady gains in the shorter week since the first of this week which was repudiated by employers after they agreed with the printing trade unions to the forty-four hour week.

The 42 local typographical unions, with a membership of 28,548, have secured the shorter week. Six months ago there were 26 locals with 2,062, have also been successful, making a total membership of 28,576.

The recent convention of the International Typographical union held in Quebec, insisted that the strike must be waged to a successful ending.

"While we condemn the employing printers who violated their signed agreements," the 1921 convention declared, "we desire to, in- sist that the officers of the International Typographical union that the manufacturers' associations and various employing printers' unions are responsible, in most cases, for their action, because of threats made by those bodies to ruin the business of any employing printer who desires to abide by the agreement entered into by our international officers."

SING NEW SONG.

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 24.—The loyal legion of loggers and lumbermen, the company "union" of northwest lumbering, has changed its song. A few months ago it was charged that high wages in the lumber industry were responsible for the lumber depression. The legion added fuel to this hammering wages to the subsistence point in localities where the boll fiz- zle competed. Timber is selling, it does not exist. The depression continues, but the legion of loggers says high wages of building craftsmen is the cause of idleness in this section.

Officers of the Timber Workers' union denounce the legion as "business agents of the lumber barons of the northwest."

The wages of the building trades and other organized workers are a standing menace to the anti-union shop, declared Hywel Davies, secretary, international president of the Timber Workers' union.

WILL RESIST WAGE CUTS.

New York, Sept. 24.—Opposition to wage cuts was recorded by the United Textile Workers at the annual convention of that organization. Attention was called to newspaper propaganda of employers, who are molding a public opinion to lower wages. The convention arranged to have a monument erected in Fall River, Mass., over the remains of the late John Golden, for many years president of the United Textile Workers.

MINERS' TENT COLONY VIEWED BY SENATORS

Williamson, W. Va., Sept. 24.—Members of the senate committee on education and labor visited the Lick Creek tent colony where striking miners and their families have been housed for several months.

George Echols, a negro preacher, 78 years old, showed the bullet gaps in his tent that had been put there, he said, by "state constables of this county." Echols, the old colored man exhibited a month-old baby born in a tent with only the bare earth as flooring. Wide slashes and bullet holes in other tents were likewise displayed, some to be the colony's hardships and dangers.

The miners said that their alleged high wages were taken from them because of charges for tools, clothing and other necessities. The witnesses also complained that many men from the colony had been "framed" and sent to jail on the charges against them.

The senate committee, Breedlove, who was shot to death last June near the camp, when a 13-year-old boy fired from a hill with a rifle. Regarding that he be not deserted, was told in detail by half a dozen witnesses. The murder of Breedlove was captured he was given one chance to run and fell dead with a prayer on his lips.

The senators were presented a memorial from the governor of the United Mine Workers, setting forth their side of the case together with a list of charges against the coal owners.

GOMPERS NOMINATES.

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 24—President Gompers favors the election of the "Profiteers' Bughouse party," and has nominated Ex-Governor Brown of this state and Governor Stanton of Texas as candidates for president and vice president.

The A. F. of L. executive expressed those views in a speech in which he made public a letter of statement by Brown that the trade unions are dealing with Frederick Mahon of the Street Car Men's union, are accessories to murder in the shooting of Mahon at Atlanta.

President Gompers challenged Brown to place his information before the proper authorities.

"Unless he does it," said the trade unionist, "he is guilty of the most mischievious falsifier and slanderer and is unworthy of the respect of the people of the United States."

There is but one other man in the United States in the class of Governor Brown—Governor Pat Neff of Texas.

In view of the fact that both of these men live in the United States it is strange that Professor Garner has not been called to study the language of monkeys."

POVERTY PLEA EXPOSED.

Chicago, Sept. 24.—The poverty plea of packer employers when they are called upon to pay a living wage is by no means a new one, company in their campaign to sell it- year notes that will draw 7 per cent tax-free interest, declared that during the last 11 years its clear profits amount to $149,537,846, and of this amount $72,989,384—over 48 per cent—has been put back into the business. Profits for the years from $250,000,000 in 1909 to over $1,100,000,000 in 1920.

The Chicago packer concern calls attention to these claims, and also to the company's own statement that Judge Alschuler who recently refused as arbitrator to lower wages of the packer workers, declared lower wage rates were necessary to prevent the conduct of the packing business at a loss.

"These advertisements," says the packer concern, "contain opinions the packers' attorneys did not dare to make at the wage hearings."

RENEW AGREEMENT.

Vancouver, British Columbia, Sept. 24.—The Musicians and Stage Employes' union has renewed its agreement with theatrical managers in this city. The latter talked 25 per cent wage reductions, but the thing didn't happen.

PROFITEER IN DOUGHNUTS.

Boston, Sept. 24.—The historic doughnut is rich in profiteering possibilities, according to the state commission on necessaries of life. It is stated that arm chair lunch house charge 5 cents each for the doughnut, which costs 1.84 cents.

"BIG FIVE" PACKERS FAVOR ANTI-UNIONISM

Chicago, Sept. 24.—The Armour, Swift, Morris and other big packing concerns have declared for anti-unionism, and announce they will not renew agreements with their employes who are not employed in the packing houses.

The packers have smashed arbitration machinery set up by the government during the war, and have organized a company "union" to aid in their fight against the amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen.

During the war the packers were forced, under threat of strike, to agree to arbitration methods. An agreement was entered into and Federal Judge Alschuler was appointed arbitrator. This agreement ended shortly after the armistice, and the packers hastened to Washington to have the war agreement extended as the so-called "labor-market" was still on the side of the employers. The employes accepted an agreement that would expire "when the war ended." Last year, when "labor market" turned in favor of the packers, the meat barons announced that the agreement had ended, and demanded wage reductions.

The matter was handled by Secretary of Labor Davis, who recommended that the agreement be renewed at an end of the agreement this September. Since then the packers have refused to meet the union, and their company "union" to function when the agreement expired.

The action of the packers in the case illustrates the hypocrisy of this brand of big business when it urges "government machinery to settle industrial disputes."

AID COLORED WORKERS.

Washington, Sept. 24.—At a conference in this city attended by President Gompers and representatives of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, the first system board of adjustment of the colored freight handlers was established, it is stated by the A. F. of L. was organized.

The conference was the result of declarations by the Denver convention of the A. F. of L. relative to relations between colored workers and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. It is believed that the new board will adjust their grievances along lines suggested and in the manner in which the railway labor board will function on certain railroad systems.

600,000 VETS ARE IDLE.

Washington, Sept. 24.—The American legion estimates that there are 600,000 unemployed ex-service men in this country. The legion attributes business men of promises made in these boys when they enlisted, and that they are called upon to keep their purse strings lengthen their pocket-books and make jobs for men who kept American business safe from a German indemnity."

ROADS WANT STRIKE.

Chicago, Sept. 24.—Railroads of this country are attempting to force a strike in the hope that they can establish the anti-union shop, declared Ben W. Hewell, president of the A. F. of L. railway employes' department.

DUSTS CAUSE DEATHS.

Washington, Sept. 24.—An investigation of the various types of respirators used by workers in numerous industries is proceeding, as inhalation of injurious dusts is to be undertaken at the Pittsburgh, Pa., experimental station of the United States bureau of mines.

Stone dusts and metal dusts that are breathed by stone cutters and metal polishers have been the cause of much pulmonary disease, incapacitating many workers and at times resulting in early death.

Investigators have learned that the finest particles of dust, of a size far too small to be seen by the unaided eye, are the ones that lodge in the lungs and do most damage. At present little is known of the merits of the different filters used by workers and workers often prefer to protect themselves with a towel or handkerchief tied around their faces. In the proposed tests by the bureau of mines fine particles such as ammonia tobacco smoke, and fine material dusts suspended in air will be filtered with the different respirators, and the relative effectiveness of the filters will be noted, as well as the resistance to the passage of air and tendency to clog. The information obtained may be used to provide more effective dust respirators.

MATERNITY INSURANCE.

Berne, Switzerland, Sept. 24. — The Swiss government is studying the question of increased maternity insurance. Last year the federal council expressed these views on the question:

"It is obvious that the loss of life experienced by the belligerent states makes a more effective protection of mothers and children essential. Even in Switzerland, where the birth rate continues to decrease, apart from considerations of a moral or socio-political character, it would be advisable to devote more attention to general hygienic measures likely to ensure and safeguard the health and strength of future generations by combating more energetically and systematically than in the past the injurious effects of the employment of women before and after childbirth. This question is of importance to Switzerland from the point of view of the army and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. It is believed that the state insurance will adjust their organization along lines suggested and in the manner in which the railway labor board will function on certain railroad systems.

AID COLORED WORKERS.

Washington, Sept. 24.—At a conference in this city attended by President Gompers and representatives of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, the first system board of adjustment of the colored freight handlers was established, it is stated by the A. F. of L. was organized.

The conference was the result of declarations by the Denver convention of the A. F. of L. relative to relations between colored workers and the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks. It is believed that the new board will adjust their grievances along lines suggested and in the manner in which the railway labor board will function on certain railroad systems.

600,000 VETS ARE IDLE.

Washington, Sept. 24.—The American legion estimates that there are 600,000 unemployed ex-service men in this country. The legion attributes business men of promises made in these boys when they enlisted, and that they are called upon to keep their purse strings lengthen their pocket-books and make jobs for men who kept American business safe from a German indemnity."

ROADS WANT STRIKE.

Chicago, Sept. 24.—Railroads of this country are attempting to force a strike in the hope that they can establish the anti-union shop, declared Ben W. Hewell, president of the A. F. of L. railway employes' department.